components of the scheme are:

(i) Production and distribution of rooted cuttings of high yielding pepper varieties at an estimated cost of Rs. 91.77 lakhs.

(ii) Establishment of model garden for high yielding pepper varieties at an estimated cost of Rs. 7.00 lakhs.

(iii) Distribution of input kits and sprayers to small and marginal farmers for increasing pepper production at an estimated cost of Rs. 137.00 laKhs.

(iv)' Field demonstration of pepper at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.76 lakhs.

(v) Rehabilitation of pepper gardens in Kerala at an estimated cost of Rs. 143 lakhs.

To supplement the activities, the Spices Board had established Certified Nurseries for production of 40 lakhs pepper rooted cuttings during) 1987-88. It has also programme to produce about 10 lakhs seedlings every year in the Board's departmental nurseries.

(c) Reduction in export duty is not likely to help the cultivators.

Purchase of a flat by Shri Ajitabh Bachchan in Montreal

1496. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA.
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased tb state:

(a) how did Shri Ajitabh Bachchan ackuire the foreign exchange to the tune of about Rs. 80 lakhs for purchasing a flat in Montreux (Switzerland) on April 3, 1986; and

(b) how did he draw foreign exchange for travelling etc. as a resident Indian upto June, 1986 and how much?

THE} MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The enquiry into case of alleged Foreign Exchange Regulation Act Eolations against Shri Ajitabh Bachchan is in progress.

Cooperation ot Swedish Government for Certain Investigations

1497. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

Will the Minister oi FINANCE be please to state:

(a)' whether Government are thinking to move jointly with the Swedish Government to request the Swiss Government to furnish facts which are required by both the Governments with regard to certain investigations;

(b) if so, what are the broad outlines thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons of not making such a joint move?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FIN ANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO); (a) The reference to certain investigations is not clear.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Setting up of an Institute of Moist and Wet Evergeen at Jorhat

1498. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a)' whether it is a fact that Government have decided *to* set up the Institute of North-Eastern Moist and Wet Evergreen at Jorhat; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

1. Orders for setting up of the "Institute of Rain and Moist Deciduous Forests Research, Jorhat have been issued and the Institute has become functional from 1st April, 1988.

2. Suitable land for setting up facilities is being acquired in consultation with the State Government.

3. The Institute is being provided with a Director with lull complement of supporting staff.

4. The areas of research identified for the Institute of Rain and Moist Deciduous Forests Research, Jorhat are:

Areas of Research

Basic Research

— Studies in Silvicultural characters of the species comprising the ecosystems of rain forests.

— Seed characters, germination and growth characters of important species.

— Ecology and energy flow in tropical forests eco-systems.

— Soil characteristics in humid forests and mangroves.

—' Role of mycorryzhae and soil micro-organisms. -

— Agricultural customs and effect of tree crops on crops in shifting cultivation areas.

—- Mechanical and chemical characteristics of forest produce in the Region.

— - Watershed management

practices. Technology

— Silvicultural practices for induc ing and tending natural regenera tion in forests.

— Conservation oriented manage ment practices.

—Shifting cultivation containment practices.

Integration of social practices with forest management practices. —Optimum utilization of forest products.

Application

— Standardisation of silvicultural and management practices of dif-ferent forest types.

— Optimum practices of raising tree crops in reclaimed sites.

~ Soil and Water conservation.

— Ensuring peoples participation in forestry.

—' Reduction in demand for wood.

Centrally Sponsored Irrigation Schemes

1499. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of centrally sponsored irrigation schemes in the country at present; and

(b) what is* the number of such ' schemes in Assam and the amount spent thereon so far?,

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES ([SHRIMATI (KRISHNA £AHI)r. (a) and (b) Irrigation Schemes are ordinarily planned funded and implemented by State Governments. Centrally sponsored schemes administered by the Ministry of Water Resources to assist States in the development of Water resources include the following:—

(i) Strengthening of ground water and surface water (MI) organisations,

(ii) Rationalisation of irrigation statistics on minor irrigation programme'